



Docket No. 5267

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): John S. HENDRICKS et al.

Examiner: J. Winter

Serial No.: 09/289,957

Art Unit: 3621

Filed: April 13, 1999

FOR: **ELECTRONIC BOOK ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY SYSTEMS**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

41  
**RECEIVED**  
JUL 22 2004  
**GROUP 3600**

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

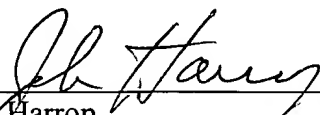
Sir:

In response to the June 30, 2004 Restriction Requirement, Applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1-58, and 217-220 drawn to secure transactions including authentication, with traverse.

Applicants respectfully submit that the subject matter of all claims 1-220 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the search and examination of the entire application should be made without serious burden. See M.P.E.P. §803, which states that "if the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits" (emphasis added). Applicants respectfully submit that this policy should apply in the above-identified application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to the Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 20, 2004

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Harrop  
Reg. No. 41,817  
ANDREWS KURTH LLP  
1701 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20006  
Voice: 202-662-2700  
Fax: 202-662-2739

**RECEIVED**  
JUL 22 2004  
**GROUP 3600**